

HOUSE RESOLUTION 242

By Cooper

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Mary B. Conner of Nashville.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly pause to specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Mary B. Conner is one such admirable person, who serves as the South Eastern Regional Director of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, the nation's oldest Greek letter organization founded by African-American college-educated women; and

WHEREAS, as the regional director, Ms. Conner is responsible for overseeing community service programming, fiscal management, regional business meetings, and membership growth across the states of Alabama, Mississippi, and Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, while cultivating a culture that parallels the sorority's mission of "service to all mankind," Mary Conner leads the region in addressing community needs within five target areas: educational enrichment, health promotion, family strengthening, environmental ownership, and global impact, under the 2014-2018 international program "Launching New Dimensions of Service"; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Conner is greatly respected for her visionary leadership, professionalism, and organization in event planning and training workshops on conference planning, graduate advisor training, constitution and bylaws, membership, and anti-hazing; and

WHEREAS, she is a thirty-five-plus-year life member of Alpha Kappa Alpha, and her extensive list of achievements with the sorority includes being named President of the Year and Member of the Year; she was initiated in Kappa Lambda Omega Chapter in Nashville, where she maintains active membership and has previously served as president; she also led efforts to

implement the first AKA Day at the Capitol in Tennessee, which was hosted by the chapter in 1997; and

WHEREAS, Mary Conner has held numerous leadership roles at the international, regional, and local levels, including Cluster 3 Tennessee Statewide Cluster Chairman, South Eastern Region Parliamentarian, 75th South Eastern Regional Conference Chairman, and member of the International Human Resources, International Membership, and International Conference and Event Planning committees; and

WHEREAS, in the professional sector, Ms. Conner has rendered sterling service for more than thirty-five years as an office manager and courtroom deputy for the U.S. District Court; and

WHEREAS, a 1974 graduate of Tennessee State University, she is a member of several civic, professional, and community-based organizations, including the National Council of Negro Women, and has served on the board of directors for Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Nashville; and

WHEREAS, additionally, she is the former president of the Pearls of Promise Foundation and a volunteer with the Susan G. Komen Foundation and Sure Dwelling Ministry, a community-based organization assisting homeless individuals with short-term shelter and other emergency life necessities; and

WHEREAS, a native of Fayette County, Ms. Conner has made Nashville her home for more than forty years; and

WHEREAS, Mary Conner is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the Volunteer State, and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor and commend Mary B. Conner for her laudable service as the South Eastern Regional Director of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, and extend to her our best wishes for every continued success in all her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.